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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/370,935 08/09/99 SERETTI

H 990809

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LM12/0712

EXAMINER

RETTA, Y

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2764

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DATE MAILED:

07/12/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/370,935

Applicant(s)

Seretti et al.

Examiner

Yehdega Retta

Group Art Unit

2764

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Apr 19, 2000

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 5-8, 10, 12, 13, and 17-30 is/are pending in the application.
Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 5-8, 10, 12, 13, and 17-30 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is in response to amendment filed 19 April 2000.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 12, 23, 28 and 30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-2, 5-8, 10, 21-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berent et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,774,873, in view of Giovannoli U.S. Patent No. 5,758,328.
5. As per claims 1, 2, 22-26, 28, 29, 30, Berent et al. (Berent) teach a plurality of computer terminals, each including an input device for inputting vehicular characteristics and financial data

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(see fig. 1, column 6 lines 27-33 and column 9 lines 40-50); a processor for controlling the vehicular data inputted into any selected one of terminal and transmitted to plurality of other terminals for display (see column 6 lines 1-56). Berent does not specifically disclose a processor for controlling the data inputted into any selected one of the computer terminal transmitted for display to plurality of terminal, and financial data inputted to at least a responding one of other ones are transmitted to the selected one computer terminal for display on the display device associated with the selected one, it is disclosed in Giovannoli (see col. 2 lines 57-67 and col. 3 lines 1-5). Giovannoli also teaches vehicular characteristics data and financial data units inputted by human operator. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Giovannoli' computerized quotation into Berent et al. vehicular auction information system for the purpose of direct quota system. One would have been motivated to minimize the time consuming task of maintaining and updating a central database as taught by Giovannoli (see col. 1 line 42 to col. 2 line 67).

6. As per claims 5-7, Berent teach vehicular characteristics data units include a make, a model and a year and description of the vehicle, wherein the description includes at least one of the body type, color, mileage and general condition of the vehicle (see column 6 line 27-33).

7. As per claim 8, Berent teach vehicular financial data units of the vehicle include at least one of a bid price amount, an assessment price amount, a wholesale price amount, and a retail price amount (see column 9 lines 34-37).

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8. As per claim 10, Berent teach information identifying a source of vehicular financial data units transmitted (see column 9 lines 1-20 for pre sale registration which identifies the bidder).

9. As per claims 21 and 27 Berent disclose interactive bidding between motor vehicle dealers (see col. 1 lines 35-50).

10. Claims 12, 13, 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giovannoli U.S. Patent NO. 5758328, further in view of Berent et al. U.S. Patent No. 5774873.

11. Regarding claims 12 and 13, Giovannoli teaches providing at least three computer terminals; selecting any one of the at least three computer terminals as a data inquiring computer terminal; deeming the remaining ones of the at least three computer terminals as data responsive computer terminals (see fig. 1); inputting characteristics data units into the data inquiring terminal; processing the data units by transmitting the data units to the data responsive terminals for display; inputting financial data units into at least one of the data responsive terminals in response to the characteristic data received by the data responsive terminals; and transmitting the financial data units to the inquiring terminal for display (see col. 3 line 55 to col. 4 line 50). Giovannoli teaches processing requests for quotation for goods and services, however does not state inputting vehicular characteristics and financial data, it is stated in Berent et al. (see figure 1 and column 6 lines 27-33 and column 9 lines 40-50). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Berent

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et al. vehicular auction information system into Giovannoli's quotation system for the purpose of selling vehicles.

12. Regarding claims 17-20, Giovannoli teaches entering characteristics data units, financial data of a product, and the source of each data responsive terminal (buyer or seller identification (code)) (see fig.7), however, does not specifically state vehicular characteristics including a make, model, year of the vehicle, description of the vehicle and financial data of a vehicle, it is disclosed in Berent et al. (see col. 6 lines 27-52 and col. 9 lines 40-50). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Berent et al. vehicular auction information system into Giovannoli's quotation system for the purpose of selling vehicles.

Conclusion

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yehdega Retta whose telephone number is (703) 305-0436. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on (703) 305-9768.

Any response to this office action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

or:

(703) 308-5397, (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

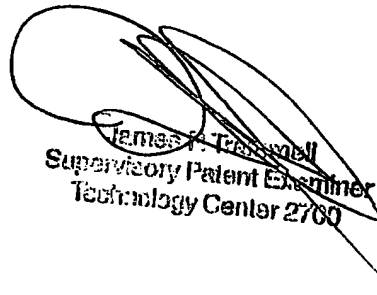
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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive Arlington, Virginia, (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.
Examiner


James F. Traxwell
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2700

Yehdega Retta
Art Unit 2764
July 5, 2000